

Assistance for Sick Units from N.R.F.

3657. SHRI L. RAMANA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to extend assistance from National Renewal Fund to rehabilitate the sick units in Andhra Pradesh to State level public sector units;

(b) if so, the current status; and

(c) the steps taken for its expeditious disposal?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (c) The National Renewal Fund (NRF) has been set up by Government in February, 1992 to provide a special safety net for workers affected by technology upgradation, modernisation, and industrial restructuring of Indian Industry.

Assistance from National Renewal Fund has been restricted to implementation of Voluntary Retirement Schemes in Central Public Sector Undertakings and schemes for counselling, retraining and redeployment of rationalised workers.

Canadian Business in India

3658. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Canada has shown its interest to capitalise on India's business;

(b) if so, whether any Trade Action Plan has been prepared in this regard;

(c) if so, the details of activities proposed in the Trade Action Plan;

(d) the sectors in which such activities are likely to be initiated; and

(e) the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Govt. of Canada has developed a business development strategy known as 'Focus India' to help Canadian business to take advantage underway in India. As a complement to 'Focus India' Strategy, the Govt. of Canada has prepared a Trade Development Plan for India to provide their Federal and Provincial Agencies with an outline of market development activities planned for fiscal year 1996-97. The activities proposed in the Trade Action Plan include exploring the merits of creating a

Canada-India Business Council and sectoral associations to mount sectoral missions to India; conducting out-reach activities to stress the importance of India to Canadian Industry Associations; expanding the Indian market information base; conducting a series of seminars in collaboration with Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) on environmental equipment and services opportunities in India; conducting Industry Association presentations; continuing to provide information and assistance to the Canadian industry on the trade and investment opportunities with India; working on mechanism to address market issues which hinder trade.

(d) The sectors in which activities are likely to be initiated include Power; Oil & Gas; Environmental products & Services; Telecommunications & Information Technology; Transportation Systems; Mining, Metal and Minerals; Agriculture and Food Products; Industrial Machinery; Bio-industries.

(e) The Trade Action Plan being implemented by the Government of Canada is likely to result in enhanced commercial and economic ties between India and Canada.

Modernisation of Textile Mills

3659. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to seek financial assistance from multilateral financial institutions for modernisation of textile mills in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the response of multilateral financial institutions; and

(d) the details of manner in which the assistance would be utilised, Statewise ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise

Similar Sized Coins

3660. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that old one rupee and new two rupee coins are almost look alike and are likely to confuse the illiterate masses who generally use them;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to withdraw these coins and reissuing them in new designs; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?